IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :

Hisashi ICHIMURA et al. : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. [NEW] : Docket No. 2001-0969

Filed July 11, 2001 : THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED

TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT

ANIMAL FIBER SUPERIOR IN SHRINK : FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPO PROOFING AND METHOD FOR ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PREPARATION THEREOF :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please insert the following paragraph as the first full sentence after the title:

This is a continuation-in-part application of Serial No. 09/721,772, filed November 27, 2000.

REMARKS

The above amendment is presented to insert the continuing data into the specification.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Hisashi ICHIMURA et al.

By Matthew Jacob

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